



General Assembly

***Amendment***

***February Session, 2012***

LCO No. 4711

**\*HB0515404711HD0\***

Offered by:

REP. GENTILE, 104<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. SHARKEY, 88<sup>th</sup> Dist.

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To: Subst. House Bill No. **5154**

File No. 342

Cal. No. 268

***"AN ACT CONCERNING PLANNING REGIONS."***

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the  
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. Section 16a-4c of the general statutes is repealed and the  
4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

5 (a) On or before January 1, [2012] 2014, and at least every twenty  
6 years thereafter, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management,  
7 within available appropriations, and in consultation with regional  
8 planning organizations, as defined in section 4-124i, the Connecticut  
9 Conference of Municipalities, the Connecticut Council of Small Towns  
10 and the chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing  
11 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
12 relating to planning and development, shall conduct an analysis of the  
13 boundaries of logical planning regions designated or redesignated  
14 under section 16a-4a. As part of such analysis, the secretary shall

15 [develop criteria to evaluate the impact of urban centers on  
16 neighboring towns] evaluate opportunities for coordinated planning  
17 and the regional delivery of state and local services. Such [criteria]  
18 analysis shall include, but not be limited to, [criteria to (1) evaluate  
19 trends in economic development and the environment, including  
20 trends in housing patterns, employment levels, commuting patterns  
21 for the most common job classifications in the state, traffic patterns on  
22 major roadways, and local perceptions of social and historic ties; and  
23 (2)] an evaluation of (1) economic regions, including regional economic  
24 development districts established pursuant to chapter 588ff; (2)  
25 comprehensive economic development strategies developed by such  
26 regional economic development districts; (3) labor market areas and  
27 workforce investment regions; (4) natural boundaries, including  
28 watersheds, coastlines, ecosystems and habitats; (5) relationships  
29 between urban, suburban and rural areas, including central cities and  
30 areas outside of the state; (6) census and other demographic  
31 information; (7) political boundaries, including municipal boundaries  
32 and congressional, senate and assembly districts; (8) transportation  
33 corridors, connectivity and boundaries, including the boundaries of  
34 metropolitan planning agencies; (9) current federal, state and  
35 municipal service delivery regions, including, but not limited to,  
36 regions established to provide emergency, health, transportation or  
37 human services; and (10) the current capacity of each regional  
38 planning organization to deliver diverse state and local services. Such  
39 analysis shall also establish a minimum size for logical planning areas  
40 that takes into consideration the number of municipalities, total  
41 population, [and the] total square mileage and whether the proposed  
42 planning region will have the capacity to successfully deliver  
43 necessary regional services. The secretary may enter into such  
44 contractual agreements as may be necessary to carry out the purposes  
45 of this subsection.

46 (b) (1) The secretary shall, not later than January 1, [2012] 2014,  
47 notify the chief executive officer of each municipality located in a  
48 planning region in which the boundaries are proposed for

49 redesignation. If the legislative body of the municipality objects to such  
50 proposed redesignation, the chief executive officer of the municipality  
51 may, not later than thirty days after the date of receipt of the notice of  
52 redesignation, petition the secretary to attend a meeting of such  
53 legislative body. The petition shall specify the location, date and time  
54 of the meeting. The meeting shall be held not later than [forty-five]  
55 sixty days after the date of the petition. The secretary shall make a  
56 reasonable attempt to appear at the meeting, or at a meeting on  
57 another date within the [forty-five-day] sixty-day period. If the  
58 secretary is unable to attend a meeting within the [forty-five-day]  
59 sixty-day period, the secretary and the chief executive officer of the  
60 municipality shall jointly schedule a date and time for the meeting,  
61 provided such meeting shall be held not later than [one hundred  
62 twenty] two hundred ten days after the date of the notice to the chief  
63 executive officer. At such meeting, the legislative body of the  
64 municipality shall inform the secretary of the objections to the  
65 proposed redesignation of the planning area boundaries. The secretary  
66 shall consider fully the oral and written objections of the legislative  
67 body and may redesignate the boundaries. Not later than [forty-five]  
68 sixty days after the date of the meeting, the secretary shall notify the  
69 chief executive officer of the determination concerning the proposed  
70 redesignation. The notice of determination shall include the reasons for  
71 such determination. As used in this subsection, "municipality" means a  
72 town, city or consolidated town and borough; "legislative body" means  
73 the board of selectmen, town council, city council, board of alderman,  
74 board of directors, board of representatives or board of the [major]  
75 warden and burgesses of a municipality; and "secretary" means the  
76 [secretary] Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management or the  
77 designee of the secretary.

78 (2) Any revision to the boundaries of a planning area, based on the  
79 analysis completed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section or due to  
80 a modification by the secretary in accordance with this subsection,  
81 shall be effective on [the first day of July following the date of  
82 completion such analysis or modification] January 1, 2015.

83 Sec. 2. Section 4-66k of the 2012 supplement to the general statutes is  
84 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
85 *1, 2012*):

86 There is established an account to be known as the "regional  
87 performance incentive account" which shall be a separate, nonlapsing  
88 account within the General Fund. The account shall contain any  
89 moneys required by law to be deposited in the account. Moneys in the  
90 account shall be expended by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and  
91 Management for the purposes of (1) providing grants under the  
92 regional performance incentive program established pursuant to  
93 section 4-124s, and (2) providing funding to the Voluntary Regional  
94 Consolidation Bonus Pool established pursuant to subsection (b) of  
95 section 4-124q, as amended by this act.

96 Sec. 3. Section 4-124q of the 2012 supplement to the general statutes  
97 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
98 *1, 2012*):

99 (a) There shall annually be paid to each regional planning agency  
100 organized under the provisions of chapter 127, each regional council of  
101 governments organized under the provisions of this chapter, and each  
102 regional council of elected officials organized under the provisions of  
103 this chapter in any planning region without a regional planning  
104 agency, from any appropriation for such purpose, a grant-in-aid equal  
105 to (1) five and three-tenths per cent of any such appropriation plus (2)  
106 for each agency or council which raises local dues in excess of five and  
107 three-tenths per cent of any such appropriation, an additional grant in  
108 an amount equal to the product obtained by multiplying any  
109 appropriation available for the purpose of this subdivision by the  
110 following fraction: The amount of dues raised by such agency or  
111 council pursuant to section 8-34a, section 4-124f or section 4-124p in  
112 excess of five and three-tenths of any such appropriation shall be the  
113 numerator. The amount of such dues raised by each such agency or  
114 council in excess of five and three-tenths per cent of any such  
115 appropriation shall be added together and the sum shall be the

116 denominator.

117 (b) There is established a Voluntary Regional Consolidation Bonus  
118 Pool to be administered by the Secretary of the Office of Policy and  
119 Management and funded by moneys received from the regional  
120 performance incentive account established in section 4-66k, as  
121 amended by this act. In addition to the annual payment to each  
122 regional planning agency under subsection (a) of this section, there  
123 shall be an additional payment made from said bonus pool to any two  
124 or more regional planning agencies, regional councils of governments  
125 or regional council of elected officials in any planning region without a  
126 regional planning agency, or any such combination thereof, that have  
127 (1) voted to merge forming a new regional council of governments or  
128 regional council of elected officials within a proposed or newly  
129 redesignated planning region boundary, and (2) submitted to said  
130 secretary a request for redesignation pursuant to subdivision (4) of  
131 section 16a-4a. Payments from said bonus pool shall be made to offset  
132 any and all reasonable costs, as determined by the secretary, associated  
133 with any such voluntary consolidation. Prior to issuing any payment  
134 pursuant to this subsection, the secretary shall review and approve  
135 each proposed consolidation to determine that such proposed  
136 consolidation is an appropriate and sustainable redesignated planning  
137 region. For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2012, and June 30, 2013, a  
138 payment shall be made under [subsection (a) of this section to] this  
139 subsection to any such approved consolidated planning region [,] on a  
140 first-come, first-served basis. [, from any appropriation available for  
141 such purpose and until such time as the appropriation for the fiscal  
142 year has been exhausted] For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2013, June  
143 30, 2014, and June 30, 2015, the secretary shall make a supplemental  
144 payment from said bonus pool, within available appropriations, to any  
145 regional council of governments or regional council of elected officials  
146 that is created in one of said fiscal years by consolidating two or more  
147 regional councils of governments, regional councils of elected officials  
148 or regional planning agencies, provided such consolidated regional  
149 council of governments or regional council of elected officials contains

150 a combined total of fourteen or more municipalities. Such  
 151 supplemental payment shall be equal to fifty per cent of the payment  
 152 made pursuant to this subsection to offset the reasonable costs of  
 153 voluntary consolidation. The secretary may waive the requirement that  
 154 a consolidated regional council of governments or regional council of  
 155 elected officials contain a combined total of fourteen or more  
 156 municipalities."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	16a-4c
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	4-66k
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2012</i>	4-124q